

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-25, and 27-31 are pending in the application. In an Office Action mailed on July 18, 2007, Claims 1 and 20, as well as certain dependent claims stemming therefrom, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). The Office Action objected to the illustrations. Certain objections were made to the specification. Claims 1 and 20 were objected to in view of certain informalities. Finally, Claims 14-17 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In view of the amendments to the illustrations and claim amendments, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all claims.

A. Objections to Illustrations

The Office Actions sets forth the position that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Office Action objects to the cooperatively shaped alignment device 12 disposed on the building element 30. Applicant regrets this oversight and has canceled the feature from Claim 10. In view of this, applicant respectfully traverses this objection to the illustration.

The drawings were also objected to because of the reference character (31) in Figure 1. Applicant has amended Figure 1 and related figures as shown in the annotated sheets accompanying this response to show the two U-shaped pipes in cross-section. In view of the foregoing illustration edits, applicant respectfully submits that this objection has been overcome.

The drawings were also objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because the reference character (30) has been used to designate both a building element having threaded openings and a building element without threaded openings. In view of the corrections to the illustrations submitted as part of this response, applicant respectfully submits that this objection has been overcome.

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In view of the foregoing claim amendments and changes to the illustrations, applicant respectfully submits that all of the objections to the illustrations have been overcome.

B. Objections to the Specification

The disclosure is objected to because the description of the features (31) at page 34, lines 19-22, is, in the opinion of the Office Action, inaccurate because features (31) are not pipes but rather openings. Applicant notes that the specification describes the feature (31) as two U-shaped pipes disposed within the building element 30 and, therefore, has amended Figure 1, as well as other related illustrations to place the illustrations in conformance with the detailed description. As such, applicant respectfully traverses this objection to the disclosure.

The objection was also objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for claimed subject matter. The Office Action sets forth the position that correction is required for "in an environment of the type having a building element and a mounting member," as recited in Claim 1. Applicant regrets this oversight and has amended Claims 1 and 20 accordingly.

The specification also stands objected to on the basis of certain informalities. Specifically, the Office Action sets forth the position that the "first conduit being disposed within a portion the building element," recited in Claim 1 and Claim 20, and the "second conduit being disposed on a side of the mounting member opposite the first or second locking member, recited in Claims 1 and 20 does not have proper antecedent basis in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As may be best seen by referring to Figure 1, the first conduit 104 is disposed within the building element 30. Also, the second conduit 106 is disposed within the mounting member 13 on a side of the mounting member 13 opposite the first or second locking member 10 or 20. Support for this position is found in specification beginning on page 31, line 16, as amended on

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page 2 of the May 30, 2007, response to Office Action. In view of this, applicant respectfully traverses this objection to the specification.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that the objections to the specification have been overcome.

C. Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 20 stand objected to due to the phrase "of the type." Applicant regrets this oversight and have amended Claims 1 and 20 accordingly. As such, applicant respectfully submits that the objections to Claims 1 and 20 have been overcome.

D. Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-13, 20, 22, 24, and 27-31 all stand rejected. However, Claims 14-17 were noted as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 20 to include the limitations of Claim 14 and intervening dependent Claim 13. As such, applicant respectfully submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

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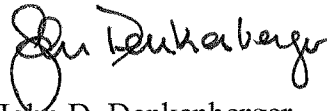
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Conclusion

In view of the above claim amendments, illustration amendments, and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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